NEZ PERCES
AND
SALMON RIVER
GOLD MINES.

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MAP

OF THE

NEZ PERCES AND SALMON RIVER

GOLD MINES

In Washington Territory.

COMPILED FROM THE MOST RECENT SURVEYS

By DANIEL W. LOWELL & CO.

SAN FRANCISCO:
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1862.

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DESCRIPTION

—OF THE—

SALMON RIVER AND NEZ PERCES

GOLD MINES.

The enclosed Map of the "Gold Mines" in Washington Territory embraces the most recent surveys made by the Officers of the U. S. Government, and has been corrected by Alonzo Leland, Esq., and others who have mined and prospected during the last season on nearly all of the tributaries on "Salmon River" and the forks of the "Clear Water."

The distances are known to be correct from one point to the other.

In regard to the richness of the "Nez Perces" and "Salmon River" mines, the publisher need say but lit-

tle, as the stories that are told of their wealth by the miners, and the veritable proof in the shape of long "sand bags" which are daily exhibited by the fortunate owners, leaves no doubt that these diggings far exeel all other Gold discoveries on the Pacific coast; and we might safely say, that their like was never before known on the face of the earth.

The most fabulous stories are told by all who have prospected these mines.

New discoveries are daily made, as the miner wanders up the ravines, affording undoubted proof that the whole country is filled with Gold.

The Salmon River and Nez Perees mines are vastly different from the Cariboo. Their geographieal position is of sueh a nature that they ean be reaehed at all seasons of the year.

The writer of this left the Salmon river mines Deeember 3d, leaving men at work in his claim. But little snow had fallen. A great deal of rain had been experienced by the miners, but that is to be expected in Oregon. The climate differs none from that of Grass Valley, Nevada, Coloma and Plaeerville; neither Summer or Winter. The land for agricultural purposes is all that the tiller of the soil could wish. Fine farming and grazing lands exist all over the country.

The writer would not speak disparagingly of the Cari-

boo mines. He has visited them and knows of their richness. It is a continuous Gold Field from the Salmon river mines to the Cariboo. Miners who came down with me from Cariboo, prospected more or less, and we found Gold everywhere, and we worked from October till December in the Salmon river mines, on Baboon Gulch, and paid our laborers $16 per diem, and they boarded themselves, or $10 per day and we boarded them.

Several of us are boarding at the What Cheer House, and will give any one desirous, all the information we possess.

We believe that gold exists all over the basin. The rivers or creeks which spring from the mountains have been washed for ages, and the Gold lays close to the surface. In many places the bed rock is only six inches from the surface.

We may venture to insert the following from a letter written December 5th, from the Salmon river mines. We are well acquainted with the writer and can vouch for its reliability:

"A Mr. Jacob Wiser's claim is the great attraction of the hour. I visited the claim to-day, and saw his day's work weighed, having worked four men and using two rockers; the result was *Fourteen pounds—two thousand six hundred and eighty-eight dollars!* Do

not be astonished, I could not credit the reports regarding this claim that were rife for several days, till I beheld it with my own eyes. Yesterday he took out *Eleven pounds.* This claim is located in a ravine putting into Baboon Gulch. Baboon Gulch is one of the richest in this mining district. *Three* to *Seven pounds* per day is no uncommon result for claims on Miller's Creek, Baboon and Mason Gulches.

"Yesterday some eighty to one hundred men left for the south side of Salmon river, some forty miles south of here. Startling reports have come in from that quarter. Twenty to one hundred dollars coarse Gold to the pan. You can see to-day men with packs upon their backs leaving for the new discovery; and it will not surprise me to soon hear that upon the south side of Salmon river still richer diggings will be discovered.

"We are in the midst of a new '49 excitement. Men pay no attention to ounce diggings; they must have diggings that pay $100 to $1,000 per day.

"To-day some parties have come in from the bars on Salmon river, where they are making from sixteen to thirty dollars with rockers. It is understood that the bars can be worked pretty much all winter, as little or no snow falls in the Valley.

"John Danogh, of Walla Walla, sold his claim to-day on Miller's Creek, for $7,000. $12,000 was offered by

Mr. Aldrieh, of Walla Walla, for two elaims on the same ereek, but eould not buy, asking priee being $20,000."

In a postscript, the letter adds: "To-day Wiser has taken out with two rockers and five men, $3,327; the dust was eleaned and weighed in the presenee of John M. Ritehie and Thomas Jeffrys, of Oregon."

Gold Fields have been diseovered through the whole seetion of eountry, for two hundred and fifty miles in extent, showing conelusively that the whole diggings are filled with eoarse and fine gold.

The Roads are good, and the Mining Country easy of aeeess. The steamers from Portland run regularly to Lewiston, arriving there on the fourth day after leaving Portland. (See advertisements.)

Stages will now run regularly from Lewiston to all the prineipal mining towns during the entire season. The reader will find a Table of Distanees attaehed, from one point to another, and the price of passage to the Mines. Upon examination of the Map, the Miner will pereeive that the most direet route to the Cariboo Diggings, should any wish to prospeet them, is to proeeed to Walla Walla, and then take stage and mail route to Fort Colville, and from there proeeed to Thompson's River.

We have also reliable information that new Gold

Diggings have been found on the headwaters of Rhodes' Creek, and on the *north fork of Clearwater*, which bid fair to rival the Salmon River Mines in richness. The gold is said to be of a much purer quality, and coarser than that obtained on Salmon River. Miners are making from $20 to $100 per day.

There can be no doubt but that a continuous Gold Field runs through the basin bounded by the Blue Mountains, Salmon Mountains, and Rocky Mountains. The Snake River runs through that region, and a thousand tributaries flowing from those mountains will witness a new era in the spring of 1862, when the wilderness must deliver its wealth to the hand now stretching forth to grasp it. The basin comprised between the Blue Mountains and the Rocky Mountains, and between the Nez Perces and the source of Snake River, is over one hundred thousand square miles, an area as large as the State of New York. I will not anticipate, but am confident that the golden shores of California, the icy region of Cariboo, and the rival empire of the South Sea, must wane before this new competitor, which has remained undiscovered, like a golden sea, until the present time.

The Mines already discovered will, without exaggeration, afford profitable employment for fifty thousand Miners. The climate is delightful, and the rich placers

of Clearwater, Salmon River, and Nez Perees Mines are ready to unfold their rich treasure to all those who are blessed with stout hearts and strong hands. Many readers may ask, what, in our opinion, will be the starting point to the Mines, or what place will be selected as a place of business? We would say, unhesitatingly, that Lewiston will be the city, its geographical position —being located at the confluence of Clearwater and Snake Rivers—at the head of steamboat navigation, shows conclusively that Nature has clearly marked it out as a town site, and the point from which the trade of the country must radiate.

During the last season, hundreds of miners have made from $2,000 to $20,000.

We have yet to meet a Miner who has regretted "trying his luck" in the Nes Perces or Salmon River Mines.

The Mines are readily and easily worked, and in the reach of all, whether poor or rich. Rockers will be the only means of working in most of the mines, but other means will be used as the mines are developed.

As yet, nearly all the gold that has been taken out has been from the surface.

In many places, it has been found laying plain in sight, requiring only to stoop to obtain the "filthy lucre."

Persons can travel the whole route from Portland to Lewiston, in the vicinity of the Mines, by steamboat, thereby saving a large expense, compared to the travel by land, in the purchase of horses and mules, to transport them and their food, if the journey is made in that manner. The boats are commodious, commanded by skillful and agreeable gentlemen, every attention paid to passengers as regards their comfort, and the rates of fare are reasonable, landing you after going aboard at Portland, at Lewiston, and in the immediate vicinity of the Gold Regions, is so short a time that it excites the wonder of the traveller.

MINING LAWS.

The following Mining Laws were passed at a meeting of the Miners on "Summit Hill," and may be of interest to our readers, as they have been adopted throughout the Mines:

This District shall be known as the "Summit District," the limits for which shall be defined as follows: Commencing at the mouth or head of Cannon or Meadow Creek (a tributary of Salmon River), from thence running five miles due south; from thence ten miles north; from thence five miles south, to mouth of Cannon, and shall be governed by the following laws:

ART. 1.—Each person mining in this District shall be entitled to one Creek Claim, and one Gulch Claim, also two Claims by purchase.

ART. 2.—No claim shall be considered a Gulch Claim which can be worked during the summer months with sluices.

ART. 3.—All Claims must be recorded within six days from the date of their location.

ART. 4.—No Claim or Claims shall be deemed forfeited from the first day of October until the first day of July, 1862.

ART. 5.—A Gulch Claim shall be considered as workable from the 20th day of October until July 5th, and a Creek Claim from the 5th of July until the 20th of October.

ART. 6.—Any person or persons making discoveries of new Mines, on any unprospected Creek or Gulch, within the limits of this District, shall be entitled to an extra Claim each.

ART. 7.—All persons holding Claims in this District shall be required to do one day's work out of every three, during the working season. This law is to be effective from and after the first of July, 1862.

ART. 9.—The limits of each Claim shall be 150 feet in length, running up or down the Creek or Gulch, and 200 feet wide.

ART. 10.—All difficulties arising among Miners shall be decided, if possible, by a Miners' Meeting, or by arbitration.

ART. 11.—The Recorder shall be allowed the sum

of $2 for every Claim he records, and the Book of Records and Mining Laws shall be open for the inspection of the public.

ART. 12.—Quartz Claims shall consist of 100 feet each on the vein or lead, with all its width, depth and angles. Discoverers to hold 50 feet extra each.

ART. 13.—Any person or persons locating water privileges, for the purpose of conveying water from one point to another, within the limits of this District, shall declare their intention of doing so by a notice posted in a conspicuous place, and have the line of said ditch surveyed and recorded within two weeks from the location thereof, or it shall be considered forfeited if actual work is not commenced and prosecuted thereon within four months from the date of its location.

ART. 14.—Chinese or Tartars are hereby prohibited from working these mines, under all and any circumstances.

AMENDMENT TO ART. 1.—Each person shall be entitled to one Hill Claim, in addition to a Creek and Gulch Claim. Hill Claims to be 100 feet front, and extend back to the centre of the hill.

AMENDMENT TO ART. 2.—Any stream affording thirty inches of water at its mouth, the whole year, shall be considered a Creek claim to the head of its main channel.

MINING LAWS OF ORO FINO DISTRICT,

Adopted at a Mass Meeting of the Miners of said District, held on the fifth day of January, A. D. 1861, and revised at other periods up to date March 1st, 1861.

Bounds of the Oro Fino District—Commencing at the Mouth of Quartz Creek and running up Oro Fino Creek five miles above Canal Gulch, including all the tributaries of said Oro Fino Creek within the aforesaid bounds.

SEC. 1.—Any citizen may locate and hold a claim.

SEC. 2.—Each Mining Claim shall consist of 150 feet, running up or down the Gulch or Stream upon which it may be located, and extending from bluff to bluff on said Gulch to Stream, unless said bluffs be more than two hundred and fifty feet from each other.

SEC. 3.—No Claim shall be considered forfeited from the first of December to the first of June on Oro Fino Creek, nor on the Tributaries thereof from the first of December until the first of April.

SEC. 4.—All Claims shall be considered forfeited within fifteen days from said date, if not worked.

SEC. 5.—All Claims shall be worked at least one day in seven, after the expiration of the said fifteen days, or otherwise they are considered forfeited.

SEC. 6.—Every person shall have the privilege of a drain-race through any Claim or Claims.

SEC. 7.—Every person shall have the privilege of the water to work his or their Claim on any Tributary or Creek.

SEC. 8.—Any person taking the water from its natural channel shall, when required, be compelled to leave at least one sluice head of water running therein.

SEC. 9.—Thirty square inches of running water shall constitute a sluice head.

SEC. 10.—One hundred feet front and running back in a straight line to the summit of any hill, shall constitute a tunnel or hill claim.

SEC. 11.—Any person or company who may have discovered hill diggings shall be entitled to one additional hill claim.

SEC. 12.—Any citizen may hold *one creek, one hill, and one ravine Claim.*

SEC. 13.—When two or more Claims join together and are worked by companies, such companies can work any portion of such Claims as they may deem expedient, and not forfeit the rest.

SEC. 14.—Any person disabled by sickness shall not forfeit their Claim.

SEC. 15.—Claims shall be distinctly marked, by notices at the end of the bounds thereof, in the name of the Claimant, and no more ground shall be deemed Claims than are included in such notices.

SEC. 16.—Any person who by proof shall pull down or destroy any notice on any Mining Claim, or the laws of this District, shall be fined in any sum that the the Miners' Court of inquiry may direct.

SEC. 17.—No person who may hold a Mining Claim shall forfeit said Claim by reason of being compelled to leave said District for provisions for himself or company; provided, he does not absent himself for a longer period than twenty-five days.

SEC. 18.—Any person or persons who may have grievances to settle, shall do so by arbitration, each party choosing a person to settle the matter, and in case they cannot agree, for the two arbitrators to choose a third arbitrator. A majority of the arbitrators shall settle the differences; but, should they not feel themselves justified in doing so, a Miners' Meeting shall be called, at which the matter shall be decided finally.

SEC. 19.—There shall be a Recorder of this Mining District chosen, who shall be paid Two Dollars and Fifty cents for recording each mining claim. The Recorder shall have custody of the Books and Laws of this Mining District, and shall hold his office at the will of the majority of the miners of this District.

SEC. 20.—Every person holding a Mining Claim shall have it recorded within thirty days from the date of the passage of these Laws, and from that time all claims shall be recorded when taken up.

SEC. 21.—Every person's name, holding a Mining Claim, shall appear on the Record.

SEC. 22.—Any person purchasing a Claim shall have it represented according to law.

SEC. 23.—No transfer or sale of Claims shall be considered valid unless it appear on the Record, and the Recorder shall receive Two Dollars and Fifty cents for the transfer.

SEC. 54.—These Laws to be amended hereafter at the option of the miners, and to take effect from and after their passage.

JOHN W. PARK, Secretary. } M. MOORE, President.

REVISION OF MINING LAWS.

At a meeting of the Miners held on the 14th day of April, 1861, to revise the Laws of Oro Fino District, the following resolutions were adopted:

SEC. 25.—That Rhodes Creek be constituted within the bounds of Oro Fino District.

SEC. 26.—That Rhodes Creek be entitled to no more or no less privileges than Oro Fino District.

SEC. 27.—That the Creek commonly known as Smith's Fork, be hereafter considered as the Main Oro Fino Creek.

SEC. 28.—That persons who are now, or have been in this District, be entitled to hold Mining Claims for Copartners, who actually now—by proof—are on the road to the mining District.

SEC. 29.—That the resolutions as passed at a prior meeting, in regard to the complete exclusion of the Chinese, and Asiatic races and the South Pacific Ocean Islanders from the mines, be confirmed.

SEC. 30.—That the preamble and resolutions hereto passed, in regard to the prohibition of the sale of whisky to the Indians, be confirmed.

At a meeting of the Miners on the 12th of May, A. D. 1861, M. Moore, Chairman, and —— Gillipsie, Secretary, the following resolutions were adopted:

SEC. 31.—That no person shall hold a Claim for any one not a resident of the Mining District, on and after the first day of June, 1861.

SEC. 32.—That no person shall interpose any objections to having their Claim measured.

SEC. 33.—That all persons holding Claims, unless at work on the same, shall renew their notice within seven days from the date of this meeting.

SEC. 34.—That Section 18, of old Laws, be amended as follows: That all disputes in regard to Mining Claims be settled by the miners working within a mile or two of the claim in dispute.

SEC. 35.—That the Laws governing this District be extended to all the mines at present discovered.

M. MOORE, Chairman.

TABLE OF DISTANCES.

From	Portland.....	to.....	Cascades.....	60 miles
"	Cascades	to.....	Dalles	50 "
	(Through in twelve honrs.)			
"	Dalles	to.....	Des Chutes (portage).	15 "
"	Des Chutes....	to.....	Walla Walla (ste'mer)	110 "
	(Through in sixteen hours.)			
"	Old Fort Walla.	to.....	Wallula (stage).....	30 "
"	Walla Walla...	to.....	Lewiston (steamer)...	160 "
	(Through in thirty hours.)			

There is a fine trail from Lewiston to Oro Fino city, on the north side of Clearwater, crossing north fork of Clearwater; distance, seventy-five miles.

From Lewiston, via Craig's, Burns', and Bell's Ferry to Oro Fino city; this is a fine wagon road, on which all the merchandise has been transported during the last season.

TABLE OF DISTANCES FROM WALLA WALLA TO DIFFERENT PLACES IN THE MINES.

Walla Walla	to	Dry Creek	9 miles
Dry Creek	to	Kop-e-i	6 "
Kop-e-i	to	Touchet	14 "
Touchet	to	Tukamon	12 "
Tukamon	to	Pah-tah-ah	3 "
Pah-tah-ah	to	Turner's Ranch	12 "
Turner's Ranch	to	El Pahwai	8 "
El Pahwai	to	Lewiston	20—84
Lewiston	to	Craigs'	15 "
Craigs'	to	Burns'	17 "
Burns'	to	Bell's Ferry	25 "
Bell's Ferry	to	Oro Fino City	30—87
Lewiston	to	Agency	10 "
Agency	to	Forks of Clearwater	25 "
Forks of Clearwater	to	Oro Fino Creek	10—45
Oro Fino Creek	to	Bell's Ferry	6 "
Bell's Ferry	to	Lawyer's Crossing	18 "
Lawyer's Crossing	to	Lawyer's Residence	12 "
Lawyer's Residence	to	Elk City	60—96
Lewiston	to	Craigs'	15 "
Craigs'	to	Burns'	17 "
Burns'	to	White Bird Creek	35 "
White Bird Creek	to	Baboon Gulch, Miller's Town, Miller's Creek, Pioneer Gulch, Florence City, Nevada City, Millenburg, Meadow Creek, Mason's Gulch	30 "

(In immediate vicinity of each other.)

DAILY LINE

FOR SALMON RIVER AND NEZ PERCES MINES.

The Oregon Steam Navigation Co's Steamers
Will run on the COLUMBIA RIVER from and after 1st of March, 1862, as follows:

Steamer "JULIA,"—JOHN WOLF, Master,
Will leave PORTLAND every **Monday, Wednesday** and **Friday,** at 6 A.M., connecting with
Steamer "IDAHO,"—J. McNULTY, Master,
at the Cascades for Dalles City, arriving same day.

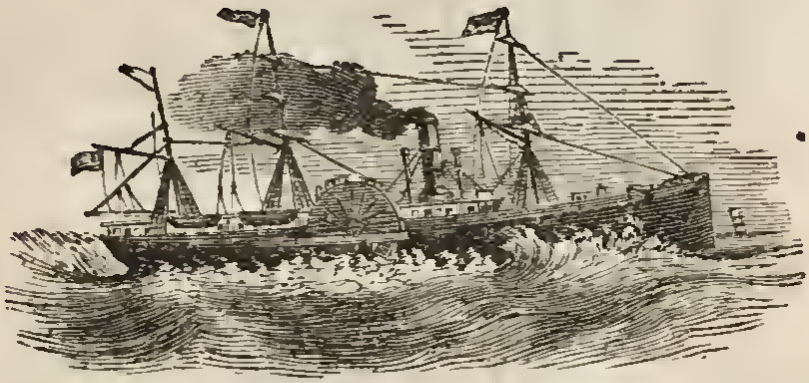
Steamer "CARRIE LADD," ——, Master,
Will leave PORTLAND every **Tuesday, Thursday** and **Saturday,** at 6 A.M., connecting with
Steamer "HASSALOE," ——, Master,
at the Cascades for Dalles City, arriving same day.

Steamer "TENINO,"—L. WHITE, Master,
Steamer "O'KANOGON,"—E. BANGHMAN, Master,
Steamer "COL. WRIGHT," ——, Master,
Will leave DES CHUTES for WALLA WALLA and LEWISTON, every
Tuesday, Thursday and **Saturday,**
At 10 A.M.

Passage from Portland to Dalles, exclusive of portage at Cascades	$ 8 00
Animals from Portland to Dalles	5 00
Passage from Des Chutes to Walla Walla	15 00
" " Lewiston	30 00
Cascades Railroad Portage	1 00
Dalles Portage to Des Chutes	3 00

J. C. AINSWORTH, Pres' O. S. N. Co.

AGENCY



OF THE

OREGON, VICTORIA,

—AND—

SAN DIEGO STEAMERS.

Steamers will leave for Portland and Victoria, on the

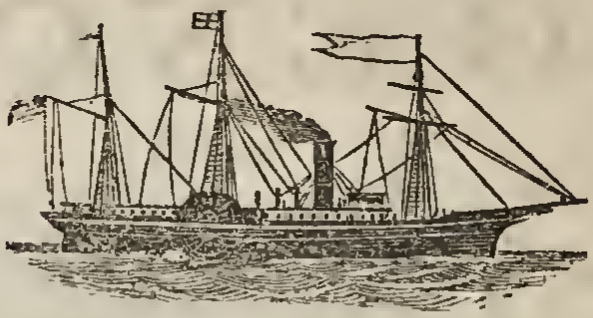
7th, 17th, and 27th

OF EACH MONTH.

S. J. HENSLEY,

Washington Street, opposite the Post Office.

CALIFORNIA AND OREGON
STEAMSHIP LINE.



—FOR—

PORTLAND, O. and VICTORIA, V. I.

1st, 8th, 16th, and 24th

OF EACH MONTH,

Steamships Sierra Nevada and Cortes.

FOR

EUREKA, (Humboldt Bay,) CRESCENT CITY,
TRINIDAD and PORT ORFORD,

5th and 20th of each Month,

Steamship COLUMBIA.

MEXICAN COAST.

MEXICAN STEAMSHIP LINE

FOR

Cape St. Lucas, Guaymas, La Paz, Mazatlan, San Blas, Manzanetta, and Acapulco,

Monthly,

Steamships Panama and Republic.

HOLLADAY & FLINT, Proprietors,
407 Washington Street, opposite Post Office.

